



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 10 HANFORD PROJECT OFFICE  
712 Swift Boulevard, Suite 5  
Richland, Washington 99352

0061083

December 18, 2003

Larry Earley, Director  
Office of Spent Nuclear Fuels  
U.S. Department of Energy  
P.O. Box 550 MSIN A4-79  
Richland, WA 99352

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EDMC

Subject: EPA Off-Site Determination for K Basins Sludge to Hanford 325 Building

Dear Mr. Earley: *Larry*

Thank you for the informative briefing on December 15 and the subsequent submittal of a test plan for K Basins Sludge. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and its contractors proposed using facilities within Hanford's 325 building for conduct of the tests. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has evaluated the facility per 40 CFR 300.440(4) for acceptability to receive CERCLA off-site waste.

For the purposes of testing treatment alternatives for approximately one to four liters of K East Basin sludge (settled sludge basis) for treatment to meet the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) waste acceptance criteria (WAC), the EPA grants an off-site approval. This CERCLA off-site determination and approval are valid through March 2004.

As DOE is aware, the K Basins sludge is PCB remediation waste. After reading the treatability test plan provided to EPA, it is EPA's understanding that the PCB remediation waste status will also apply to the treated waste. Although PCBs are a minor component of the sludge, DOE is reminded of the requirement to treat the sludge to meet the WIPP WAC including the PCBs in the waste. If you have any questions, you are welcome to contact me at 509-376-9884.

Sincerely,

*Larry Gadbois*

Larry Gadbois  
K Basins Project Manager

Cc: Michelle Anderson-Moore, Ecology  
Dave Bartus, EPA  
Jon Perry, Fluor  
Kent Smith, Fluor  
Dave Watson, Fluor  
Administrative Record; 100-KR-2